

5. Marcellus Shale Gas Development in the Region - (HSCD)

Dimock

In 2012, acting on data provided by Cabot, a Marcellus shale drilling company, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and residents, EPA Region 3 initiated a Superfund removal action to provide alternate water to several homes in Dimock PA. The Region's Hazardous Site Cleanup Division (HSCD) led a response action in which the provision of alternate water to 8 homes and the sampling of approximately 65 residential wells was conducted. While subsequent sampling of those private wells and others in the area showed that there was no need for EPA to continue to provide water to those homes or to initiate provision of water to other homes, EPA requested that the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry initiate a Health Consultation. In late March 2013, ATSDR provided its draft report and requested EPA's review with the intent to issue the final report in late spring 2013. EPA is currently reviewing the draft report. Significant media and public interest in the impacts of Marcellus Shale gas extraction has surrounded Dimock for many years and the release of the ATSDR report will likely renew this interest.

In fact, Region 3 and EPA HQ are responding to several FOIA requests that require review of thousands of pages of relevant documents and emails. EPA has forwarded initial replies to several requestors while it continues to review documents for subsequent releases.

Non-responsive